

# The Prairie Light Review

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Volume 21

Number 2 *Midsummer Muse*

Article 38

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Spring 5-1-2001

## Azalea

Jeannette Helmbrecht

*College of DuPage*

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### Recommended Citation

Helmbrecht, Jeannette (2001) "Azalea," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 21 : No. 2 , Article 38.

Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol21/iss2/38>

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## Passion And Repose

*Helen Luther*

I lie beside you as petrified stone.  
I dare not move  
Lest the movement of flesh  
Be construed as caring.  
So I am stone.  
Swallowed  
Embedded, lodged within the soft cotton sheets.  
Their coolness is my comfort.  
  
I pray for morning to come.

## Azalea

*Jeanette Helmbrecht*

She springs to life, a dazzling display,  
this temptress in her myriad pastels  
who coyly hugs the pillared mansion,  
shuns the blush of cherry blossoms  
vying for the stage.

She peaks in vibrant bursts to steal  
the view, embraces parks and roadways  
with intoxicating hues until it seems  
our senses can't endure her lush array,  
nor can we turn our lusting eyes away.

This Jezebel delights the birthing spring  
then dissipates to sketch another fling.